

AFCI Objectives

Promote academic opportunities

- Highly motivated students
- Nuclear science and engineering

Strengthen the academic and research infrastructure

• Maintain and advance nuclear and accelerator science, engineering and technology

Engage creative academic talent in research areas

Support the R&D plan of the AFCI program

Strengthen relationships among universities and DOE laboratories



Outcomes to Date

- 10 master's degrees
- 3 fellows in (or will be shortly) a full time Ph.D. program
- 1 at GWU for MA in Science, Technology and Public Policy
- 1 national laboratory employee
- 5 working in industry (2 pursuing Ph.D.'s part time)
- 4 present fellows have specifically indicated they want to work at national laboratories
- 5 current fellows will be pursuing Ph.D.s (4 will do so immediately after acquiring MS degrees)



The Near Term Expectations

- 5 master's degrees in December
- New class of master's degree Fellows begins in August '05
- First of the Ph.D. Fellows begin in August '05
- And more!



Senate Mark

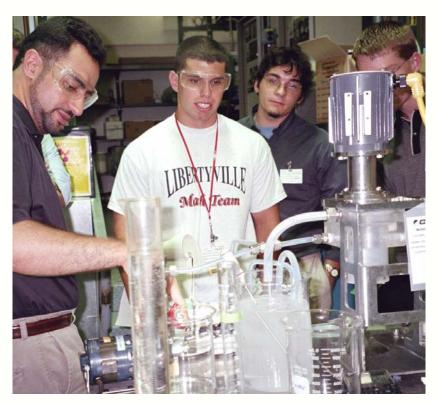
\$3,000,000 for **directed research** aimed at **enhancing university-based collaborations** focused on the Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative with **U.S. universities.** All university research shall be **closely coordinated** with the **technical projects** conducted by principal investigators within the **national laboratories.**



URA Proposed Plan

Integrate Competitive University Research into the Fellowship Program

• An objective for the program for the past three years.



Proposing Two Paths to a Fellowship

Two paths into the fellowship program

- 1. Existing path via Fellowship application
 - Quality applicant, interest in topic, appropriate university program
- 2. Research path via research proposal package
 - White papers proposing valuable research (useful to the program) will result in a request for a full proposal "package"
 - Full proposal packages (includes fellowship applications) will be peer reviewed and selected based upon the usual criteria *and* the quality of the fellowship applications



Overview of the Proposed Process

- September RFP process begins (preproposals followed by full proposals)
- Preproposals evaluated based upon research only
- October or November Fellowship process begins
- Early March Fellowship Applications due (Established review process.)
- Early April Full proposals due. Receive immediate peer review.
 - URA compiles the results of fellowship and full proposal reviews.
- National Technical Directors make funding recommendations.
- Mid to late April DOE makes final selection.
- URA integrates management of the research program into the fellowship program in a transparent manner.



Proposed Integrated Plan

- Continues participation of top students
- Ensures university research is on target
- Uses your **time** efficiently
- Provides a level playing field
- Ensures students see the DOE connection
- Enhances academic support for fellows through integrating faculty



Outcomes from Proposed Process

- Well integrated fellowship and research programs
- Increased number of fellows
- More universities
- Robust university research program
- Minimal demands on DOE
- Some universities will have more than one fellow in the same department



What URA Does

- Attention to details
- Professional management with a personal touch
- Special opportunities
- Evaluations and refinements



The.AFCI Fellowship Experience

AKA: Selling the sizzle!

Kamilah Turner, University of Michigan chats with Pete Lyons, Ph.D., Science and Technology Advisor on the staff of Senator Pete Domenici.

ÒThrough the fully funded AFCI trips to Washington, D.C., and an American **Nuclear Society** conference, I was able to meet many key influential individuals in the nuclear research industry, in addition to meeting even more people who wanted to aid my thesis research Ó - Alan Bolind

The . AFCI Experience Networking

ÒAfter developing a contact through the program and with extensive research, I was able to develop a project that has been both challenging and interesting.Ó - Kamilah Turner



Representative Judy Biggert visits with Alan Bolind, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

ÒI found the flexibility of myAFCI research very liberating. I was able to concentrate on my area of interest while working for the AFCI project.Ó

- Leigh Outten



Leigh Outten, MI7

OThe trip to Washington DC and Argonne East helped introduce me to the whole AFCI program. Working at Argonne National Laboratory has given me a great opportunity to get an inside look at what goes on day to day, and what is involved in AFCI research.Ó

- Lee Van Duyn

The . AFCI Experience Research



Lee Van Duyn, Georgia Tech

OI have made friends through this fellowship that I hope will last the rest of my life.Ó

- Ben Milliron



Ben Milliron, University of Ohio

ÒI enjoy the flexibility of the AFCI program. It has allowed me to focus on exactly what I wanted, and it has allowed me to study what I wanted to study.

- Lee Van Duyn

The . AFCI Experience National Laboratories



From left, Frank Szakaly, Texas A&M University; WIII Wieselquist, North Carolina State University; Billy Rothstein, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and Lee Van Duyn Georgia Tech, donned lab coats and safety goggles to tour a laboratory at Argonne East National Laboratory.

recognition the AFCI fellows receive.
I have received letters of congratulations from members of Congress and I have received a mention in my hometown newspaper

- Mike Gregson

become an even more dedicated student knowing I have the support and faith of the Department of Energy. I highly urge any devoted student entering graduate school to take the step and apply as I did. The financial assistance and personal rewards are immeasurable.Ó
-Tom McKittrick



The . AFCI Experience And More!

ashington
DC was the highlight
of the summer. It was
really great to be able
to meet with the
DOE people and with
Senators Reid and

- Jennifer Ladd-Lively

